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Remarks: To 20: Per our conversation, DDCI desires you be identified as principal. Please notify Manager NCS as appropriate and keep DDCI advised.

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THE WHITE HOUSE

October 7, 1983

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF STATE

THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

THE SECRETARY OF COMMERCE

THE SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION

THE SECRETARY OF ENERGY

THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE

THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY

THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

THE DIRECTOR, CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

THE DIRECTOR, UNITED STATES INFORMATION AGENCY

THE DIRECTOR, FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

THE DIRECTOR, NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY

THE ADMINISTRATOR, GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

THE ADMINISTRATOR, VETERANS ADMINISTRATION

THE ADMINISTRATOR, NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

THE ADMINISTRATOR, NATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION AGENCY

THE MANAGER, NATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM

SUBJECT:

Enlargement of the National Communications System

The coordination of national security/emergency preparedness (NS/EP) telecommunications planning to support national leadership requirements is an essential function. Given the dependence placed on diverse and multiple telecommunications systems to carry-out vital national activities, and the rapidly changing nature of the commercial telecommunications industry, it is necessary to ensure that an effective forum for coordinating enhancements to national security/emergency preparedness capabilities exists.

National Security Decision Directive Number 97 (unclassified version), National Security Telecommunications Policy, August 8, 1983, recognizes this need and prescribes the objectives and policy principles in support of national security leadership requirements. On July 14, the NSDD-97 Steering Group reviewed the current situation and discussed and approved the following actions intended to facilitate this coordination role:

The National Communications System is hereby enlarged to include participation by the above-listed departments and agencies having NS/EP telecommunications operational and policy management roles and responsibilities. This enlarged NCS will also function as the Emergency Communications Working Group for the purposes of the Emergency Mobilization

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Preparedness Board (EMPB) and National Security Decision Directive Number 47, Emergency Mobilization Preparedness, July 22, 1982 (NSDD-47). All listed departments and agencies are requested to identify a principal at the level of Deputy Assistant Secretary or its equivalent and a point-of-contact for NCS-related activities. This notification should be made to the Manager, NCS, not later than October 7, 1983.

- -- An Executive Order addressing national security/emergency preparedness telecommunications and the National Communications System, consistent with the roles and responsibilities enunciated in NSDD-97, will be prepared. The Executive Agent, NCS, has been tasked to prepare the draft Executive Order. All NCS departments and agencies will coordinate on this document.
- -- The NSDD-97 Steering Group will serve as the focal point for assessing proposed national security telecommunications legislation.

The active participation of all departments and agencies in NCS activities is essential as the Administration moves forward to address national security telecommunications requirements as reflected in NSDD-47 and NSDD-97 and as a response to the recommendations made by the President's National Security Telecommunications Advisory Committee (NSTAC) is developed.

Pursuant to NSDD-97, Robert W. Helm, National Security Council staff assistant for national security/emergency preparedness telecommunications policy matters, has been designated as my representative to chair the NSDD-97 Steering Group.

FOR THE PRESIDENT:

William P. Clark

cc: NSDD-97 Steering Group

Director, OSTP Alton Keel, OMB